

**Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board**

**Template for delegations commenting on the draft country programme documents**

**2023 first regular session**

Delegations are kindly invited to use this template to share their comments on the draft country programme document being presented to the Executive Board during the forthcoming session.

Delegation name: *United States*

Draft country programme document: *Bolivia*

In accordance with Executive Board decision [2014/1](#), draft country programme documents are considered and approved in one session, on a no-objection basis. All comments received by the Office of the Secretary of the Executive Board before the deadline stated above will be posted on the Executive Board website.

	<b>Delegation's comments</b>	<b>Response(s)</b>
<b>General comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Are indigenous populations living in remote and protected areas classified under "rural populations?"<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Some of these populations have reported having zero to minimal support from the government in health and education, which the document recognizes on page 4, paragraph 12.</li></ul></li></ul>	

**Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme document**

*(Delegations providing comments may wish to include details, such as the page number, paragraph number, or page of the annexed results and resources framework.*

- Page 8, section on “Water, Sanitation and Hygiene and sustainable climate and environment”: the United States would support mentioning the rapidly increasing mercury pollution in Bolivia’s water resources.
  - Bolivia is the largest importer of mercury in the world. Mercury has been found at unacceptable levels in women and children, especially in indigenous communities. As a growing risk to human health, especially in women and children, and the environment, is UNICEF addressing the rise in mercury pollution?